

# **WICHITA TRANSIT**

## **Transit Management Study**

# History of Wichita Transit Management

Public takes over private transit operations under WMTA board (General Manager is city employee)

Issued consulting contract to ATE (now First Transit)

Consulting contract expanded to include management of daily operations – Dave Smith appointed GM

Michael Melaniphy GM

WMTA board dissolved; Transit becomes a city department

City Council terminates management contract; City Manager appoints Mike Vinson interim GM

Joe Varneke GM

Jay Banasiak GM

1967

1981

1983

1988

1995

1997

1998

2008



# Traditional Regional Board Management Structure



# Traditional Municipal Management Structure

(Council/Manager government)

Municipal (City Council)



City Manager



Department Director



Consultant as required



Division Directors



Staff



# Wichita Transit currently has . . .



# Regional Management Structures

City	Population	Regional authority or city department?	Contracted management or in-house?
Kansas City, KS	143,801	regional authority	in-house
Kansas City, MO	447,306	regional authority	general manager is appointed by regional transit authority commission
Omaha, NE	427,872	city	in-house
Tulsa, OK	382,872	regional authority	in-house; contracted assistance
Oklahoma City, OK	537,734	regional authority	in-house
Colorado Springs, CO	372,437	city	in-house
Lincoln, NE	241,167	city	in-house
Topeka, KS	122,113	authority inside city limits	in-house
Des Moines, IA	481,394	regional authority	general manager is appointed by regional transit authority commission



# Contracted management . . .

- . . . was implemented by WMTA board in 1983
- . . . was “inherited” by city when WMTA board was dissolved in 1998
- . . . is not common in municipal government
- . . . lacks experience in municipal governance and administration
- . . . is not suited to the promotion of public trust
- . . . has divided loyalties

# Wichita Transit Mill Levy

<b>Year</b>	<b>WT Transfer from GF</b>	<b>All Funds Property Tax Levy</b>	<b>All Funds Mills Levied</b>	<b>Wichita Transit Mill Levy</b>
1999	3,279,140	55,503,586	31.253	<b>1.846</b>
2000	3,279,140	60,277,938	31.406	<b>1.708</b>
2001	3,475,080	66,409,135	31.359	<b>1.641</b>
2002	3,475,080	71,441,101	31.474	<b>1.531</b>
2003	3,475,080	75,280,750	31.845	<b>1.470</b>
2004	3,475,080	82,570,169	31.905	<b>1.343</b>
2005	3,475,080	85,571,839	31.828	<b>1.293</b>
2006	3,475,080	89,673,886	31.898	<b>1.236</b>
2007	3,475,080	95,811,187	31.953	<b>1.159</b>
2008	3,475,080*	100,952,400*	31.953*	<b>1.100*</b>

\*Estimated amounts from 2008 budget

Wichita Transit mill levy has dropped 8.3% per year



# Wichita Transit Sources of Funds - 2007

	<b>FTA</b>	<b>KDOT</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>Fees</b>	<b>Total</b>
Operations	- 0 -	\$ 685,375	\$ 3,012,050	\$ 1,090,827	\$ 4,788,252
Maintenance	\$ 1,438,600	- 0 -	359,650	- 0 -	1,798,250
Planning / Administration	912,268	- 0 -	228,067	- 0 -	1,140,335
Paratransit	844,072	400,000	574,048	591,265	2,409,385
Totals	\$ 3,194,940	\$ 1,085,375	\$ 4,173,815	\$ 1,682,092	\$ 10,136,222

# Recommendation:

Re-establish the position of Director of Transit